

Dummy script
“BUDDHA”

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PANEL 1: KING AND QUEEN SLEEPING ON THE ROYAL BED (FRONT VIEW) WITH A THOUGHT BUBBLE EMANATING FROM THE QUEEN DREAMING ABOUT A WHITE ELEPHANT WHO IS HAPPILY PRESENTING HER WITH A WHITE LOTUS HELD TO THE END OF ITS TRUNK.

CAPTION: 565 B.C. – Lumbini (modern day Nepal), in the warrior clan of the Shakyas.

CAPTION: Queen Maya is visited by a white elephant who presents her a lotus flower...a great even is about to unfold.

PANEL 2: SPLIT PANEL – ON ONE PANEL SHOW THE ENTIRE KINGDOM IN CELEBRATION (TOP DOWN VIEW) AND IN THE OTHER AN OLD SAGE IN SAFFRON ENTERS ONE OF THE GIANT ARCHES OF THE ROYAL COURTYARD WHICH IS IMMERSSED IN FESTIVITIES.

CAPTION: King Suddhodana of Kapilavastu and the entire kingdom rejoices at the birth of a son – Siddhattha Gautama. The great sage Asita too visits the palace...

PANEL 3: CLOSE UP OF A SMILING AND AMUSED SAGE ASITA LOOKING AT THE READER WITH AN INDEX FINGER RAISED AND A REVEALED HOROSCOPE IN THE OTHER HAND.

CAPTION: ...and informs King Suddhodana that the child may become a universal monarch or abandoning home, he would become an enlightened soul, a Buddha, for the salvation of mankind.

PANEL 4: SIDE VIEW OF AN AGIATED KING SUDDHODANA WITH A BECALM SAGE ASITA LOOKING AT HIM.

King Suddhodana (word bubble): What shall happen that will make my son abandon home to become an enlightened soul.

Sage Asita (word bubble): Four Signs

Sage Asita (word bubble): a decrepit old man

Sage Asita (word bubble): a diseased man

Sage Asita (word bubble): a dead man

Sage Asita (word bubble): a monk

King Suddhodana (word bubble): My son shall be a Chakravarti¹ (shouting) and nothing else... I won't let it happen (electrify)!

¹ Universal Monarch

PANEL 5: SIDE VIEW OF A DEAD QUEEN MAYA WITH THE GRIEVING ROYAL FAMILY AT THE SIDE WITH SORROFGUL MAHAPRAJAPATI HOLDING BABY SIDDHARTHA.

CAPTION: 7 days later Queen Maya passes away, with her sister, Mahaprajapati, becoming Siddhartha's step mother. She raises him with love and care.

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SPLASH PANEL: A YOUNG HANDSOME PRINCE ADORNED IN ROYAL ROBES AND JEWELS SITTING IN THE SCREEN CENTER WITH A WINE BOWL IN HIS HAND – DISINTERESTED AND DEJECTED – VOLUPTUOUS AND BEAUTIFUL COURTESANS AND DANCERS PRANCE AROUND HIM IN A LUXURIOUS SETTING BEFITTING A GREAT PALACE.

CAPTION: Siddhattha Gautama - The man destined to be the King and rule the world...

CAPTION: ...stays tormented, something is amiss from his wonderful life.